

honoured.¹ Hence the jawbones of all the kings of Uganda from the earliest times to the present day have been preserved with the utmost care, each of them being deposited, along with the stump of the monarch's navel-string, in a temple specially dedicated to the worship of the king's ghost; for it is believed that the ghosts of the deceased monarchs would quarrel if they shared the same temple, the question of precedence being one which it would be very difficult for them to adjust to their mutual satisfaction.² All the temples of the dead kings stand in the district called Busiro, which means the place of the graves, because the tombs as well as the temples of the departed potentates are situated within its boundaries. The supervision of the temples and of the estates attached to them was a duty incumbent on the *Mugema* or earl of Busiro, one of the few hereditary chiefs in the country. His principal office was that of Prime Minister (*Katikiro*) to the dead kings.³

When a king dies, his body is sent to Busiro and there embalmed. Then it is laid to rest in a large round house, which has been built for its reception on the top of a hill. This is the king's tomb. It is a conical structure supported by a central post, with a thatched roof reaching down to the ground. Round the hut a high strong fence of reeds is erected, and an outer fence encircles the whole at some distance lower down the hill. Here the body is placed on a bedstead; the sepulchral chamber is filled with bark cloths till it can hold no more, the mainpost is cut down, and the door of the tomb closed, so that no one

can enter it again.
 When that was done, the wives of the
 late king used to be
 brought, with their arms pinioned, and
 placed at intervals
 round the outer wall of the tomb, where
 they were clubbed
 to death. Hundreds of men were also
 killed in the space
 between the two fences, that their
 ghosts might wait on the
 ghost of the dead king in the other
 world. None of their
 bodies were buried ; they were left to
 rot where they fell.
 Then the gates in the fences were
 closed; and three chiefs

¹ Rev. J. Roscoe, *oj>. cit.* pp. 113, 3 Rev< j. Roscoe *opm a-*
[^] pp> 104)
²⁸²⁻ 252 sq. ; L. F. Cunningham, *Uganda*
² Rev. J. Roscoe, *op. dt.* pp. no,
and its People (London, 1900, p
 282, 285. 226). [